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APR 03 2008

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Patent No. 5,915,912
Issue Date: June 29, 1999
Application No. 08/752,565
Filed: November 21, 1996
Attorney Docket No. 6955

DECISION ON PETITION

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed January 29, 2008, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee for the above-identified patent.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This patent expired on June 29, 2007 for failure to pay the seven and one-half year maintenance fee. Since this petition was submitted within twenty-four months after the six-month grace period provided in 37 CFR 1.362(e), the petition was timely filed under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.378(c).

The maintenance fee is hereby accepted and the above-identified patent is reinstated as of the mail date of this decision.

It is not apparent whether the person signing the statement of unintentional delay was in a position to have firsthand or direct knowledge of the facts and circumstances of the delay at issue. Nevertheless, such statement is being treated as having been made as the result of a reasonable inquiry into the facts and circumstances of such delay. In the event that such an inquiry has not been made, petitioner must make such an inquiry. If such inquiry results in the discovery that the delay in paying the maintenance fee under 37 CFR 1.378(c) was intentional, petitioner must notify the Office. Petitioner will not receive future correspondence related to maintenance fees for the patent unless a "Fee Address" Indication Form (see PTO/SB/47) is submitted.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-4231.

The patent file is being forwarded to Files Repository.

Michelle R. Eason
Paralegal Specialist
Office of Petitions

Cc: ARTHUR M. ANTONELLI
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS, LLP
1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20004

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PTO/SB/66 (10-05)

Approved for use through 04/30/2009. OMB 0651-0016
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF
MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CFR 1.378(c))**

Docket Number (Optional)

053332-6006-US01

Mail to: Mail Stop Petition
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Fax: (571) 273-8300

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information at (571) 272-3282.

Patent No. 6,916,912 Application Number 08/752,565

Issue Date June 29, 1999 Filing Date November 21, 1988

CAUTION: Maintenance fee (and surcharge, if any) payment must correctly identify: (1) the patent number (or reissue patent number, if a reissue) and (2) the application number of the actual U.S. application (or reissue application) leading to issuance of that patent to ensure the fee(s) is/are associated with the correct patent. 37 CFR 1.366(c) and (d).

Also complete the following information, if applicable

The above - identified patent

☐ is a reissue of original Patent No. _____, original issue date _____;
original application number _____,
original filing date _____.

☐ resulted from the entry into the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. 371 of international
application _____ filed on _____.

04/03/2008 CKHL/DK

00000001 500310

01 FC:1552
02 FC:1558

2360.00 DA
1540.00 DA

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Date

Signature

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

(Page 1 of 3)

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.378(c). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-8189 and select option 2.

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1. SMALL ENTITY

☒ Patentee claims, or has previously claimed, small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

2. LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

☒ Patentee is no longer entitled to small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g).

3. MAINTENANCE FEE (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g))

The appropriate maintenance fee must be submitted with this petition, unless it was paid earlier.

NOT Small Entity			Small Entity		
Amount	Fee	(Code)	Amount	Fee	(Code)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 1/2 yr fee	(1551)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 1/2 yr fee	(2551)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$ 2,360.00	7 1/2 yr fee	(1552)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 1/2 yr fee	(2552)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 1/2 yr fee	(1553)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 1/2 yr fee	(2553)

MAINTENANCE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$ 2,360.00

4. SURCHARGE

The surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) of \$ 1840.00 (Fee Code 1558) must be paid as a condition of accepting unintentionally delayed payment of the maintenance fee.

SURCHARGE BEING SUBMITTED \$ 4,000.00

5. MANNER OF PAYMENT

☐ Enclosed is a check for the sum of \$ _____☒ Please charge Deposit Account No. 60-0310 the sum of \$ 4,000.00. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached.☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

6. AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ANY FEE DEFICIENCY

☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any maintenance fee, surcharge or petition deficiency to Deposit Account No. 60-0310. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached.

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7. OVERPAYMENT

As to any overpayment made please

- ☒ Credit to Deposit Account No. 50-0310
OR
☐ Send refund check.

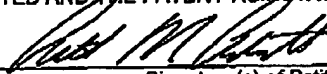
WARNING:

Petitioner/applicant is cautioned to avoid submitting personal information in documents filed in a patent application that may contribute to identity theft. Personal information such as social security numbers, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers (other than a check or credit card authorization form PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes) is never required by the USPTO to support a petition or an application. If this type of personal information is included in documents submitted to the USPTO, petitioners/applicants should consider redacting such personal information from the documents before submitting them to the USPTO. Petitioner/applicant is advised that the record of a patent application is available to the public after publication of the application (unless a non-publication request in compliance with 37 CFR 1.213(a) is made in the application) or issuance of a patent. Furthermore, the record from an abandoned application may also be available to the public if the application is referenced in a published application or an issued patent (see 37 CFR 1.14). Checks and credit card authorization forms PTO-2038 submitted for payment purposes are not retained in the application file and therefore are not publicly available.

8. STATEMENT

The delay in payment of the maintenance fee to this patent was unintentional.

9. PETITIONER(S) REQUEST THAT THE DELAYED PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE BE
ACCEPTED AND THE PATENT REINSTATED.

 January 29, 2008
Signature(s) of Petitioner(s) Date
Arthur M. Antonelli 51410
Typed or printed name(s) Registration Number, if applicable
202-739-5717
Telephone Number
Morgan Lewis & Bockius LLP
Address
1111 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004
Address

37 CFR 1.378(d) states: "Any petition under this section must be signed by an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office, or by the patentee, the assignee, or other party in interest."

ENCLOSURES:

- ☒ Maintenance Fee payment
☒ Surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(l)(2) (fee for filing the maintenance fee petition)
☐

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